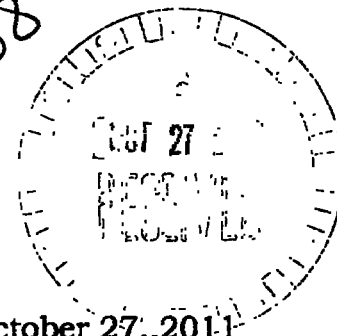


**RICHARD H. STREETER**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

23/188



October 27, 2011

Via Hand Delivery

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

**FEE RECEIVED**  
OCT 27 2011  
SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
OCT 27 2011  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: Notice of Exemption to Abandon a portion of the Norman Branch  
Line from M.P. 447, near Antoine, to the end of the Line at M.P.  
479.2, near Birds Mill, in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties,  
Arkansas, STB Docket No. AB-1076X

Dear Ms. Brown:

Pursuant to the Board's exemption procedures for abandonment and  
discontinuance of service of rail lines with no local business for at least two (2)  
years, (49 C.F.R. § 1152.50), I am hereby filing this Verified Notice of  
Exemption, including a Certificate of Service and Publication.

Please file the Notice of Exemption in Docket No. AB-1076X. Enclosed is  
a check in the amount of \$3,700.00 for the filing fee. Because the Caddo  
Valley Railroad Company is insolvent, it is respectfully requested that the filing  
fee be waived on the grounds that payment of the fee will impose an undue  
hardship upon the requestor. A detailed explanation is set forth in my  
accompanying letter of this date.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Streeter

RHS:rs  
cc: All Concerned Parties  
Attachments

**FILED**  
OCT 27 2011  
SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**FILED**

OCT 27 2011

Before the  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Docket No. AB-1076X

CADDO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY

--ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION--

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

OCT 27 2011

Part of  
Public Record

MONTGOMERY AND PIKE COUNTIES, ARKANSAS

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**FILE RECEIVED**

OCT 27 2011

**SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR") submits this Verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152, Subpart F – Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights for an exempt abandonment of service on the Norman Branch Line from Milepost 447 to the end of the Line at Milepost 479.2, near Birds, Mill, a total distance of 32.2 miles in Montgomery and Pike County, Arkansas ("the Line").

**Proposed Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2)**

The abandonment and discontinuance are proposed to be consummated on or after December 12, 2011 (at least 50 days after filing the Notice of Exemption).

**Certification: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b)**

CVRR certifies that no local or overhead traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years. Therefore, there is no need to reroute any traffic. CVRR further certifies that no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or filed by a state or local governmental entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line is pending either with the

Board of any U.S. District Court, or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the two-year period. Exhibit A.

**Additional Information Required: 49 C.F.R. 1152.22(a)(1)-(4), (7)-(8) and (e)(4)**

**(a) General.**

(a)(1) The railroad's exact name is Caddo Valley Railroad Company.

(a)(2) CVRR is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, Chapter 105.

(a)(3) CVRR intends to abandon the portion of the Norman Branch Line from Milepost 447 to the end of the Line at Milepost 479.2, a total distance of 32.2 miles, in Montgomery and Pike Counties, Arkansas.

(a)(4) A map showing the location of the Line in relation to other rail lines, highways, and major roads in the area is attached as Attachment 1.

(a)(7) The representative to whom correspondence regarding this abandonment and discontinuance should be sent is:

Richard H. Streeter  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-363-2011 (Tel.)  
202-363-4899 (FAX)  
[rhstreeter@gmail.com](mailto:rhstreeter@gmail.com)

(a)(8) Zip Codes. The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 71921, 71922, 71940 and 71943.

(e)(4) Rural and Community Impact. Because the Lines have been dormant for over two years, CVRR anticipates no adverse rural impact from the proposal. Neither will there be any adverse impact on the local community,

because no traffic has moved over the Lines for some time. Because the Lines have not been used for local rail shipments for over twenty-four (24) months, there will be no effect on regional or local transportation systems and patterns, and there will be no diversion of traffic to other transportation systems or modes resulting from CVRR's action here. After the proposed abandonment, the closest rail service will be provided by Arkansas Midland Railroad ("AKMD"), which recently reacquired the southernmost segment of the Norman Branch Line from CVRR. AKMD also operates a transload facility immediately adjacent to its main line.

It is CVRR's opinion that the property upon which the Lines are located would be suitable for other public purposes. For example, the Lines' rights-of-way might be suited for use as a recreational trail.

The Lines do not contain federally-granted rights-of-way. As appropriate, CVRR is willing promptly to make available any information in its possession to anyone so requesting it.

### **Labor Protection**

The interests of railroad employees, if any, will be protected by the conditions discussed in *Oregon Short Line Railroad Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

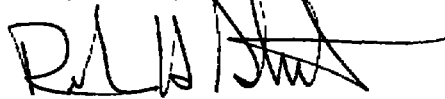
### **Certifications**

Attached as Exhibit No. 2 is a Certificate of Service and Publication, pursuant to the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(d)(1), 1105.11 and 1105.12.

**Environmental and Historic Report**

A copy of the Transmittal Letter that accompanied CVRR's combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR"), containing the information required by 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(e) and 1105.8 is attached as Exhibit No. 3. A copy of the EHR is being served upon the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis, but is also attached hereto as Attachment 3 to Exhibit No. 2 (CVRR's Section 1105.11 certification).

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. H. Streeter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CADDO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY  
Richard H. Streeter  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
(202) 363-2011 (Tel.)  
(202) 363-4899 (FAX)  
[rhstreeter@gmail.com](mailto:rhstreeter@gmail.com)

Dated: October 27, 2011

EXHIBIT A

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION THAT RAIL LINE MEETS  
CRITERIA OF 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(b)

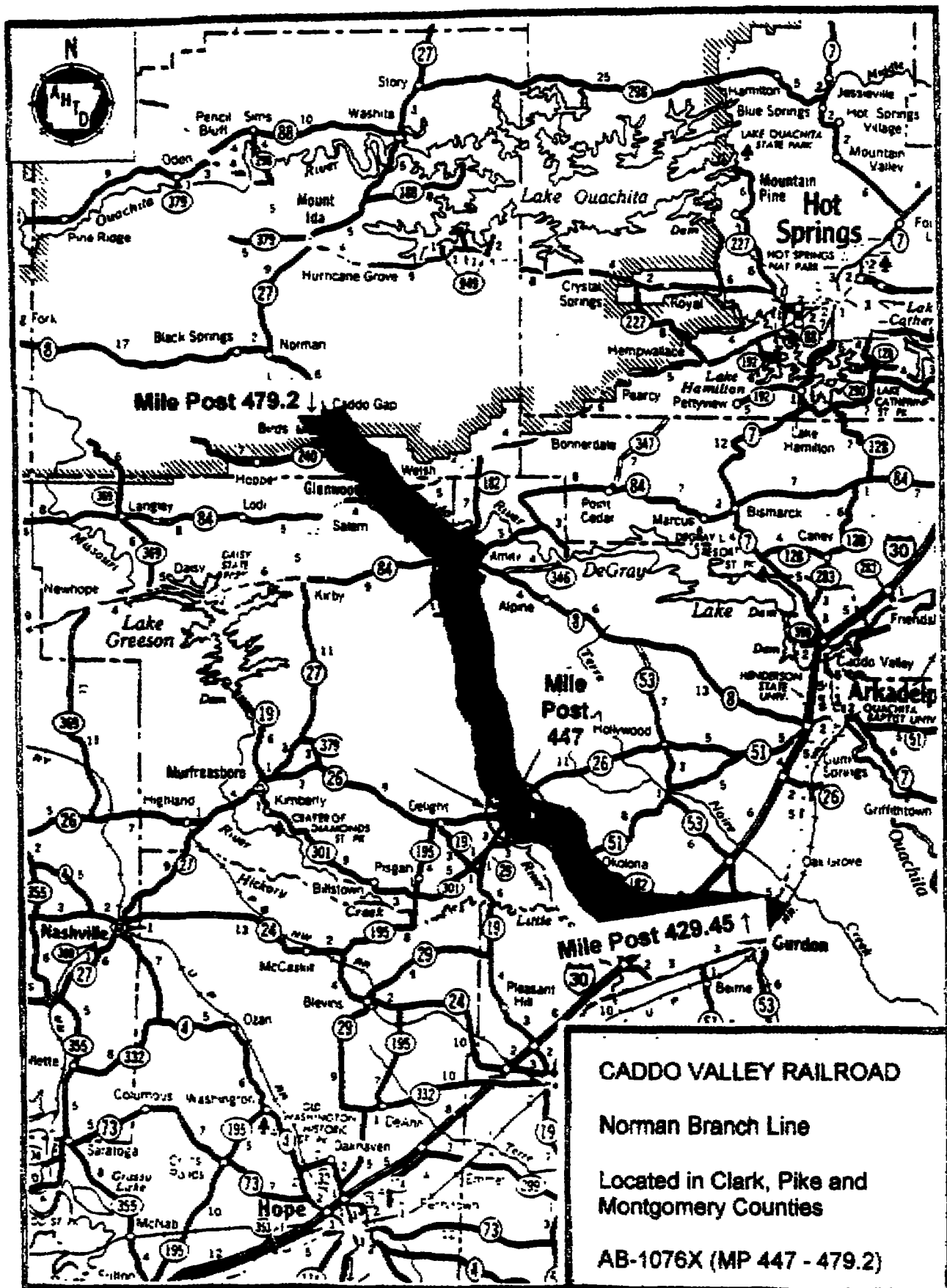
I, Tim Bean, President, Caddo Valley Railroad Company, declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States of America, that I have read the foregoing document and that its assertions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I further declare that I am qualified and authorized to submit this verification on behalf of Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR").

I hereby certify that no local traffic has been handled to or from any customer over the rail line located between milepost 447.0 to milepost 479.2 at Birds Mill, AR ("the Line") for at least two (2) years prior to the date hereof. The Line is stub-ended and, therefore, not capable of handling overhead traffic. Further, no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or a State or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the six-year period.

The foregoing certification is made on behalf of CVRR by the undersigned after due and careful investigation of the matters herein certified and based on the best of the knowledge, information and belief of the undersigned.

FURTHER SAYETH THE AFFIANT NOT.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Bean



**DOCKET NO. AB-1076X  
NORMAN BRANCH SEGMENT**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND PUBLICATION**

**49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(D)(1) – Notice**

The undersigned certifies that on September 29, 2011, written notice was given of Caddo Valley Railroad's intent to use the exemption notice procedure to abandon the segment of the Norman Branch Line from MP 447 to the end of the Line at MP 479.2 in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties, Arkansas in Docket No. AB-1076X. Written notice (a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 1) was served on the following:

Arkansas Public Service Commission  
1000 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

National Park Service  
Recreation Resources Assistance  
Division  
Midwest Region  
601 Riverside Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture  
Chief of the Forest Service  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, N.W. Auditors Bldg.  
14<sup>th</sup> St. & Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Department of Defense  
Surface Deployment Distribution  
Command  
Transportation Engr. Agency  
Railroads for National Defense  
Program  
709 Ward Drive  
Scott Air Force Base, IL 62225

**49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 – Transmittal Letter for Applicant's Report**

The undersigned certifies that on October, 7, 2011, a Combined Environmental and Historic Report pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8 was served in Docket No. AB-1076X for abandonment of the segment of

the Norman Branch Line from MP 447 to the end of the Line at MP 479.2 in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties, Arkansas, on the following:

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Arkansas State Clearing House  
400 East Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72202-2418

State Environmental Protection Agency

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

State Coastal Zone Management Agency

(If applicable):

Not Applicable

Head of County:

West Central Arkansas Planning & Development  
District  
835 Central Avenue, Suite 201/P.O. Box 21100  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Environmental Protection Agency

(Regional Office):

Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202

State Historic Preservation Office:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 4  
1875 Century Blvd.  
NE Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Vicksburg District  
4155 East Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435

National Park Service:

National Park Service  
Midwest Region  
120 Russell Labs  
1630 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service

State Conservationist  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
700 West Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201

National Geodetic Survey:

National Geodetic Survey  
Geodetic Services Division  
Information Services  
NOAAINGS12  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

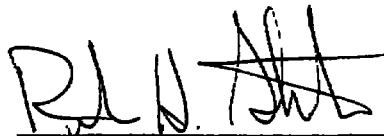
**49 C.F.R. § 1105.12- Newspaper Notice**

The undersigned further certifies that a "Notice of Intent to Abandon or to Discontinue Rail Service" was published in the form prescribed by the Board for a Notice of Exemption (a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 2). The Notice was published one time in a major newspaper in the county in

which the Line is located as follows:

| <u>County</u> | <u>Newspaper</u>          | <u>Date</u>     |
|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Montgomery    | Arkansas Democrat Gazette | October 5, 2011 |
| Pike          | Arkansas Democrat Gazette | October 5, 2011 |
| Clark         | Arkansas Democrat Gazette | October 5, 2011 |

**Dated this 27th day of October, 2010.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. H. Streeter", written over a horizontal line.

Richard H. Streeter

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

September 29, 2011

Arkansas Public Service Commission  
1000 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

National Park Service  
Recreation Resources Assistance  
Division  
Midwest Region  
601 Riverside Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture  
Chief of the Forest Service  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, N.W. Auditors Bldg.  
14<sup>th</sup> St. & Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Department of Defense  
Military Surface Deployment and  
Distribution Command  
Transportation Engr. Agency  
Railroads for National Defense  
Program  
1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W  
Scott Air Force Base, IL 62225-5006

**Re: Proposed Abandonment of Portion of Norman Branch Line from M.P. 447 near Antoine to end of the Line at MP 479.2 near Birds Mill in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties, Arkansas, a total distance of 32.2 miles; STB Docket No. AB-1076X**

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised that Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR") expects to file with the United States Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a notice of an exempt abandonment on a portion of a line of railroad known as the Norman Branch Line in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties, extending from Milepost 447 to Milepost 479.2 a total distance of 32.2 miles (the "Line"). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service zip codes 71921, 71922, 71940 and 71943.

The "no business" exemption procedure will be used to abandon the Line, pursuant to the STB's abandonment regulations at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50. No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years and there is no overhead traffic on the Line. A Notice of Exemption to abandon service on the Line pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (no local traffic for at least two years) will be filed with the STB on or after October 19, 2011.

Based on information in CVRR's possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in CVRR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

September 29, 2011

Page 2

A map showing the segment of Line to be abandoned is attached for your information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.H. Streeter", written over a faint, dotted rectangular background.

Richard H. Streeter  
Attorney for  
Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Enclosure

2/11/19

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

---

Docket No. AB-1076X  
CADDO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY -  
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION -  
IN CLARK, PIKE AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES, AR

---

Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR") submits this Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7 and 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d), respectively, for an exempt abandonment of a segment of the Norman Branch line from Milepost 447 near Antoine to Milepost 479.2 near Birds Mill, a total distance of 32.2 miles in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties, Arkansas (the "Line"). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 71921, 71922, 71940 and 71943. CVRR anticipates that it will file a Notice of Exemption to abandon the Line on or after October 19, 2011.

A map of the Line (Attachment No. 1) and CVRR's letter to federal, state and local government agencies (Attachment No. 2) are attached to this EHR. Responses received thus far to CVRR's letters are also attached.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**  
**49 C.F.R. 1105.7(e)**

**(1) PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES.** Describe the proposed action, including commodities transported, the planned disposition (if any) of any rail line and other structures that may be involved, and any possible changes in current operations or maintenance practices. Also describe any reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. Include a readable detailed map and drawings clearly delineating the project.

**Responses:** Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR") proposes to abandon approximately 32.20 miles of its rail line between Railroad Milepost 447.0 and

# Arkansas Democrat Gazette

## STATEMENT OF LEGAL ADVERTISING

Ex 2  
Attachment  
2

[REDACTED]

479.2, which is a portion of the northern segment of the Norman Branch Line. Due to deteriorated track conditions and seriously adverse financial circumstances, CVR was compelled to suspend all rail services on the Line in May 2009. No local traffic has moved over the Line during the past two years, and there is no overhead traffic. No complaint regarding cessation of service has been filed, is pending, or has been ruled upon in favor of a complainant in the past two years.

The Line has had only two customers in the past ten years, Bean Lumber Company, Inc., which is affiliated with CVRR, and GS Roofing Products Company, Inc., a subsidiary of CertainTeed. Bean Lumber Company, Inc. has ceased operations and filed for bankruptcy. CertainTeed has satisfied its shipping needs through a transload operation with AKMD.

Abandonment of the Line will result in the removal of the rail, crossties, and possibly the upper layer of ballast. CVRR does not intend to disturb any bridges or sub grade or sub grade structures. CVRR anticipates that it will enter into an agreement with Southwest Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority, which will rail bank the right of way in order to preserve the rail corridor, which consists of easements dating back to the 19th and early part of the 20th Century.

A map of the Line is attached. See Attachment 1.

**(2) Transportation System.** Describe the effects of the proposed action on regional or local transportation systems and patterns. Estimate the amount of traffic (passenger or freight) that will be diverted to other transportation systems or modes as a result of the proposed action.

**Response:** Because no traffic uses the Line, the proposed abandonment will

have no impact on area transportation systems and patterns.

**(3) Land Use.**

(i) Based on consultation with local and/or regional planning agencies and/or a review of the official planning documents prepared by such agencies, state whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe the inconsistencies.

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, state the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

(iii) If the action affects land or water uses within a designated coastal zone, include the coastal zone information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.9

(iv) If the proposed action is an abandonment, state whether or not the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. § 10905 and explain why.

**Responses:** (i) CVRR is unaware of any adverse effects on local and existing land use plans. The West Central Arkansas Planning and Development District has been contacted. To date, CVRR has received no response.

(ii) The Natural Resource Conservation Service ("NRCS") has been contacted. To date, CVRR has received no response.

(iii) Not Applicable.

(iv) The right-of-way proposed for abandonment is suitable for other public purposes. In particular, the right-of-way upon which the Line is located could be used for a pedestrian trail or for public utility occupations.

**(4) Energy**

(i) Describe the effect of the proposed action on transportation of energy resources.

- (ii) Describe the effect of the proposed action on recyclable commodities.
- (iii) State whether the proposed action will result in an increase or decrease in overall energy efficiency and explain why.
- (iv) If the proposed action will cause diversions from rail to motor carriage of more than:
  - (A) 1,000 rail carloads a year, or
  - (B) an average of 50 rail carloads per mile per year for any part of the affected line, quantify the resulting net change in energy consumption and show the data and methodology used to arrive at the figure given.

**Responses:** (i) There are no effects on the transportation of energy resources.

- (ii) There are no effects on the movement of recyclable commodities, or ozone depleting chemicals moved over the Line.
- (iii) The activity and diversion thresholds used to calculate the effect on noise, air quality, or energy consumption will not be exceeded.
- (iv)(A)(B) Because no traffic has moved over the Line for over two years, the abandonment will not cause any diversions from rail-to-motor.

**(5) Air.** (i) If the proposed action will result in either:

- (A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 100% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least eight trains a day on any segment of rail line affected by the proposal, or
- (B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 100% (measured by carload activity), or
- (C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on any affected road segment, quantify the anticipated effect on air emissions. For a proposal under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or § 10505) to construct a new line or reinstitute service over a previously abandoned line, only the eight train a day provision in subsection (5)(i)(A) will apply.

**Responses:** CVRR does not anticipate any such effects.

**(5) Air.** (ii) If the proposed action affects a class 1 or nonattainment area under the Clean Air Act, and will result in either:

(A) an increase in rail traffic of at least 50% (measured in gross ton miles annually) or an increase of at least three trains a day on any segment of rail line, or

(B) an increase in rail yard activity of at least 20% (measured by carload activity), or

(C) an average increase in truck traffic of more than 10% of the average daily traffic or 50 vehicles a day on a given road segment, then state whether any expected increased emissions are within the parameters established by the State Implementation Plan. However, for a rail construction under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 (or 49 U.S.C. § 10505), or a case involving the reinstitution of service over a previously abandoned line, only the three train a day threshold in this item shall apply.

**Response:** There will be no increase in rail traffic, rail yard activity, or truck traffic as a result of the proposed action.

**(5) Air.** (iii) If transportation of ozone depleting materials (such as nitrogen oxide and Freon) is contemplated, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and spills; contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of ozone depleting materials in the event of a collision or derailment.

**Response:** The proposed action will not involve or affect the transportation of ozone depleting materials.

**(6) Noise.** If any of the thresholds identified in item (5)(i) of this section are surpassed, state whether the proposed action will cause:

(i) an incremental increase in noise levels of three decibels Ldn or more or

(ii) an increase to a noise level of 65 decibels Ldn or greater. If so, identify sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, libraries, hospitals, residences, retirement communities, and nursing homes) in the

project area and quantify the noise increase for these receptors if the thresholds are surpassed.

**Response:** Not applicable.

**(7) Safety.**

(i) Describe any effects of the proposed action on public health and safety (including vehicle delay time at railroad grade crossings).

(ii) If hazardous materials are expected to be transported, identify: the materials and quantity; the frequency of service; whether chemicals are being transported that, if mixed, could react to form more hazardous compounds; safety practices (including any speed restrictions); the applicant's safety record (to the extent available) on derailments, accidents and hazardous spills; the contingency plans to deal with accidental spills; and the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials.

(iii) If there are any known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way, identify the location of those sites and the types of hazardous materials involved.

**Responses:** (i) The proposed action will have no detrimental effects on public health and safety.

(ii) The proposed action will not affect the transportation of hazardous materials.

(iii) There are no known hazardous materials waste sites or sites where known hazardous material spills have occurred on or along the subject right-of-way.

**(8) Biological resources.**

(i) Based on consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects.

(ii) State whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State

parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

**Response:** (i) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been contacted. To date, CVRR has not received a response.

(ii) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been contacted. To date, CVRR has not received a response.

**(9) Water.**

(i) Based on consultation with State water quality officials, state whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

(ii) Based on consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

(iii) State whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action. (Applicants should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the state environmental protection or equivalent agency if they are unsure whether such permits are required.)

**Response:** (i) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality have been contacted. The response of the Water Division of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality is attached.

To date, no response has been received from the EPA.

(ii) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted. To date, CVRR has not received a response.

(iii) CVRR does not anticipate that there will be any requirements for Section 402 permits.

**(10) Proposed Mitigation.** Describe any actions that are proposed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, indicating why the proposed mitigation is appropriate.

**Response:** There are no known adverse environmental impacts.

**HISTORIC REPORT**  
**49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(d)**

(1) A U.S.G.S. topographic map (or an alternate map drawn to scale and sufficiently detailed to show buildings and other structures in the vicinity of the proposed action) showing the location of the proposed action, and the locations and approximate dimension of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older and are part of the proposed action.

**Response:** Attached are copies of the map showing relevant Mile Posts. The line to be abandoned has been identified by a heavy black line. (See Attachment 1).

CVRR does not have information regarding structures that are 50 years old or older that may be eligible for listing in the National Register that are part of the proposed action.

(2) A written description of the right of way (including approximate widths, to the extent known), and the topography and urban and/or rural characteristics of the surrounding area.

**Response:** The right of way width is generally 100 feet. The line traverses a rural portion of Southwest Arkansas and crosses multiple streams and rivers, including the Caddo, the Antoine and Little Missouri Rivers. The topography is generally level.

(3) Good quality photographs (actual photographic prints, not photocopies) of railroad structures on the property that are 50 years old or older and of the immediately surrounding area:

**Response:** There are no structures other than bridges. Appropriate photographs are attached of the bridges. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Agency has been contacted. To date, CVRR has received no response.

(4) The date(s) of construction of the structure(s) and the date(s) and extent of any major alterations to the extent such information is known:

**Response:** The Line was constructed in 1907 by the Gurdon and Fort Smith Railroad, which was chartered in 1900. No other information is known regarding construction or alterations. The Line is currently constructed with 90-pound rail that was placed in service between 1940 and 1948.

(5) A brief narrative history of carrier operations in the area, and an explanation of what, if any, changes are contemplated as a result of the proposed action:

**Response:** As described by W. M. "Mike" Adams, *A Journey Thru Time*, 26 Arkansas Railroader, November 1995, at 3, "[b]y 1903 the Iron Mountain Company acquired the property [of the Gurdon and Fort Smith Railroad] and completed construction from Antoine" to Caddo Gap, which is north of the current end of the Line at Mile Post 479.2. In 1909, the Line came under control of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad (which was controlled by the Missouri Pacific Railroad, which itself was subsequently acquired by Union Pacific). Arkansas Midland Railroad acquired the Line from Union Pacific Railroad in February 1992. In September 2000, CVRR acquired the Line from Arkansas Midland pursuant to the Feeder Railroad Development Program (49 U.S.C. § 10907). Prior to the cessation of rail service in 2009, the Line primarily was used to transport raw materials, such as lumber products and crushed stone.

Accounts of the historical significance of the railroad relating to the growth of Gurdon, Arkansas and the lumber industry in the region are published at *Horace Estes House, Gurdon, Clark County*, [http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties/search\\_nomination\\_popup.asp?id=68](http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties/search_nomination_popup.asp?id=68); and *Hoo-Hoo Monument, Gurdon, Clark County*, [http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties/search\\_nomination\\_popup.asp?id=687](http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties/search_nomination_popup.asp?id=687).

It is anticipated that following abandonment, the right-of-way will be preserved for interim trail use and rail banking pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1247(d).

(6) A brief summary of documents in the carrier's possession, such as engineering drawings, that might be useful in documenting a structure that is found to be historic:

**Response:** CVRR has no such documents in its possession.

(7) An opinion (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) as to whether the site and/or structures meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (36 C.F.R. 60.4), and whether there is likelihood of archeological resources or any other previously unknown historic properties in the project area, and the basis for these opinions

(including any consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office, local historical societies or universities):

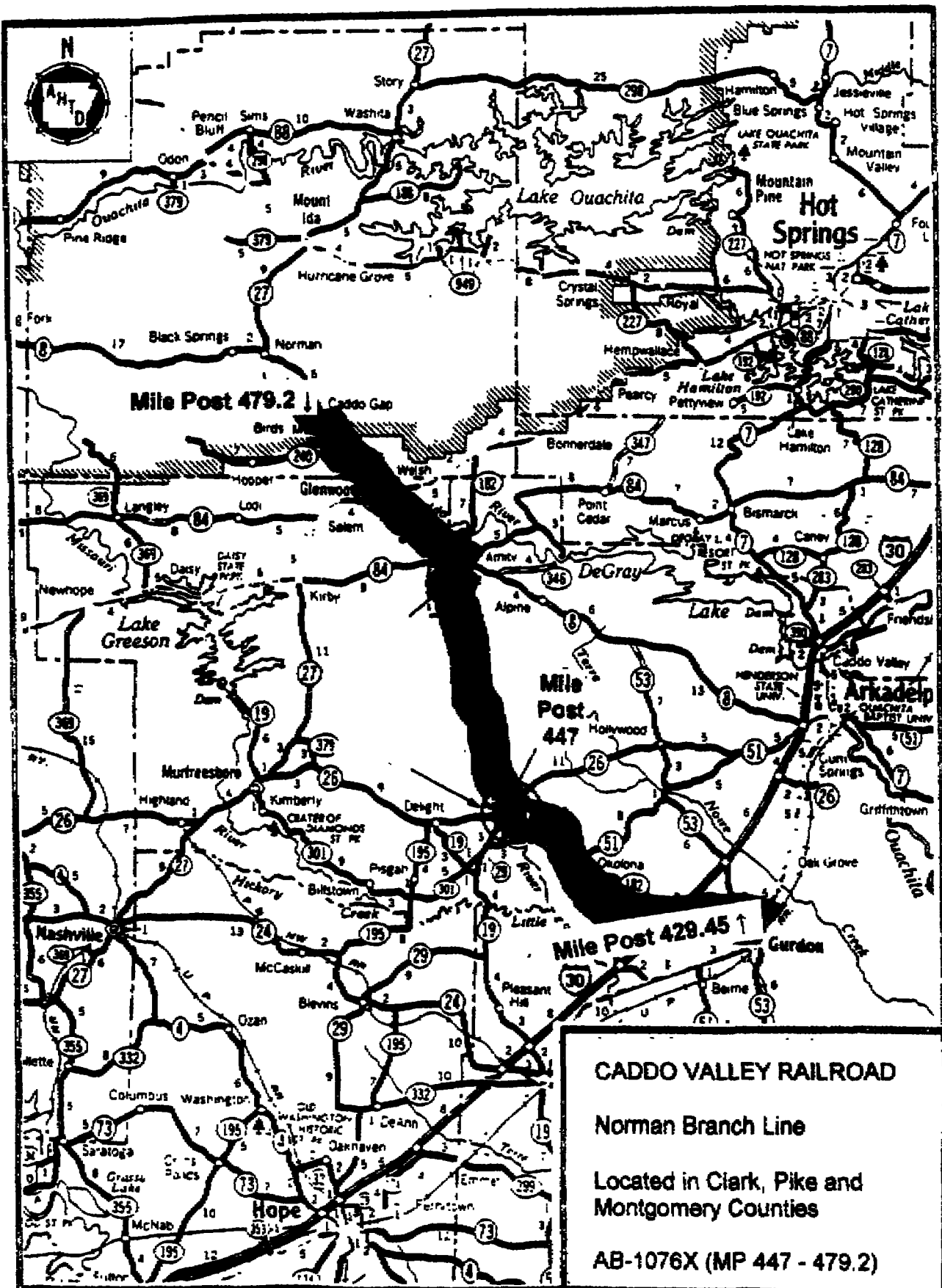
**Response:** CVRR does not know of any significance or uniqueness to the Line that would warrant your consideration. To the best of its knowledge, the Line is not associated with any event that has made a contribution to the broad patterns of history and was not associated with the lives of persons significant to its past. Nor does the Line have any features that embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Nor has the Line yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. To the extent that certain bridges on the Line (which are the only structures other than rail) may satisfy any of the above-mentioned criteria, they will remain in place following abandonment and be available for future study.

(8) A description (based on readily available information in the railroad's possession) of any known prior subsurface ground disturbances or fill, environmental conditions (naturally occurring or man-made) that might affect the archeological recovery of resources (such as swampy conditions or the presence of toxic wastes), and the surrounding terrain.

**Response:** CVRR does not have any such readily available information.

(9) Within 30 days of receipt of the historic report, the State Historic Preservation Officer may request the following additional information regarding specified non-railroad owned properties or groups of properties immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Photographs of specified properties that can be readily seen from the railroad right-of-way (or other public rights-of-way adjacent to the property) and a written description of any previously discovered archeological sites, identifying the locations and type of the site (i.e., prehistoric or native American):

**Response:** The Arkansas Historic Preservation Agency has been contacted. By letter dated October 5, 2011, CVRR was requested to provide 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale U.S.G.S. topographic maps clearly delineating the project area, as well as a project description detailing all aspects of the proposed project and the location, age, and photographs of structures to be renovated, removed, demolished, or abandoned. All such materials have been forwarded to the Department of Arkansas Heritage, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.



September 29, 2011

State Clearinghouse (or alternate):

Arkansas State Clearing House  
400 East Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72202-2418

State Environmental Protection Agency

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

State Coastal Zone Management Agency

(If applicable):

Not Applicable

Head of County:

West Central Arkansas Planning & Development  
District  
835 Central Avenue, Suite 201/P.O. Box 21100  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Environmental Protection Agency

(Regional Office):

Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202

State Historic Preservation Office:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

U.S. Fish and Wildlife:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 4  
1875 Century Blvd.  
NE Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Little Rock District  
PO Box 867  
Little Rock, AR 72203

National Park Service:

National Park Service  
Midwest Region  
120 Russell Labs  
1630 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706

U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service

State Conservationist  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
101 East Capitol Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201

National Geodetic Survey:

National Geodetic Survey  
Geodetic Services Division  
Information Services  
NOAAINGS12  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

Re: Proposed Abandonment of segment of the Norman Branch Line  
from Milepost 447 near Antoine to end of Line at Milepost 479.2  
near Birds Mill, a total distance of 32.2 miles in Clark, Pike and Montgomery  
Counties, Arkansas: STB Docket No. 1076X

To Whom It May Concern:

Caddo Valley Railroad Company plans to request authority from the Surface  
Transportation Board (STB) to abandon and discontinue rail service on the segment of the  
Norman Branch line from Railroad Milepost 447 near Antoine to Railroad Milepost 479.2  
near Birds Mill, a total distance of 32.2 miles in Clark, Pike and Montgomery Counties,  
Arkansas. A map of the proposed track abandonment shown in black is attached.

Pursuant to the STB's regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, and the environmental  
regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105.7, this is to request your assistance in identifying any  
potential effects of this action as indicated in the paragraphs below. We do not anticipate any  
adverse environmental impacts. However, if you identify any adverse environmental impacts,  
describe any actions that are proposed in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. Please  
provide us with a written response that can be included in an Environmental Report, which will  
be sent to the STB.

LOCAL AND/OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES. State whether the proposed action is consistent with existing land use plans. Describe any inconsistencies.

U.S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE. State the effect of the proposed action on any prime agricultural land.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (And State Game and Parks Commission). If Addressed). State (1) whether the proposed action is likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or areas designated as a critical habitat, and if so, describe the effects, and, (2) whether wildlife sanctuaries or refuges, National or State parks or forests will be affected, and describe any effects.

STATE WATER QUALITY OFFICIALS. State whether the proposed action is consistent with applicable Federal, State or Local water quality standards. Describe any inconsistencies.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. State (1) whether permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344) are required for the proposed action and (2) whether any designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected. Describe the effects.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY). (1) Identify any potential effects on the surrounding area, (2) identify the location of hazardous waste sites and known hazardous material spills on the right-of-way and list the types of hazardous materials involved, and (3) state whether permits under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1342) are required for the proposed action.

Thank you for your assistance. Please send your reply to the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Law Office of Richard H. Streeter  
5255 Partridge Lane, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
(202) 363-2011  
[rhstreeter@gmail.com](mailto:rhstreeter@gmail.com)  
Attorney for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Enclosure

Cc: Southwest Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority  
Southwest Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority  
2401 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923



The Department of  
**Arkansas  
Heritage**

Mike Beebe  
Governor

Cathie Matthews  
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



**Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program**

1500 Tower Building

323 Center Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880

fax: (501) 324-9184

tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail:

[info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)

website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.com](http://www.arkansaspreservation.com)

An Equal Opportunity Employer



October 5, 2011

Mr. Richard H. Streeter  
Law Office OF Richard H. Streeter  
5255 Partridge Lane, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

RE: Multi-County - General  
Section 106 Review - STB; AHPP Tracking#78985  
Proposed Norman Branch Line Railroad Abandonment  
Project From MP 429.45 To MP 447 In Clark And Pike  
Counties, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Streeter:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry,  
regarding properties of architectural; historical,  
or archeological significance in the area of the  
proposed referenced project.

In order for the Arkansas Historic Preservation  
Program (AHPP) to complete its review of the  
proposed project, we will need the additional  
information checked below:

☒ **7.5 minute 1:24,000 scale U.S.G.S.**  
topographic maps **clearly delineating** the  
project area;

☒ a project description detailing all aspects of  
the proposed project;

☒ the location, age, and  
photographs of structures (if any) to be renovated,  
removed, demolished, or abandoned as a result of  
this project;

☐ photographs of any structures 50 years old or  
older on property directly adjacent to the project  
area.

Once we have received the above information, we  
will complete our review as expeditiously as  
possible. If you have any questions, please  
contact me at (501) 324-9880.

Sincerely,

George McCluskey  
Section 106 Review Coordinator

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

Via e-mail: rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 10, 2011

George McCluskey  
Section 106 Review Coordinator  
The Department of Arkansas Heritage  
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Abandonment Projects from MP 429.45 to MP 447, and from MP 447 to MP 479.2

Dear Mr. McCluskey:


This letter is written in response to your letter of October 5, 2011. These projects both involve the abandonment of rail lines and the discontinuance of rail service from MP 429.45 to MP 479.2. A full description of the projects is contained in the Draft Combined Environmental and Historic Report ("EHR") that was forwarded to you on October 7, 2011. Due to its insolvency and the total collapse of its business between the points involved over the past two years, Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR") is unable to continue rail operations. Upon being authorized to abandon and discontinue operations, CVRR intends to salvage the track and track materials unless an appropriate Offer of Financial Assistance is received. CVRR has been notified that the Southwest Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority may be interested in pursuing an OFA in order to railbank the corridor and create a trail.

In order to assist the Authority, CVRR intends to remove the track but otherwise leave all bridges intact. As more fully discussed in the draft EHR, the bridges date back to the original construction of the line. The portion of the line from MP 447 to 479.2 was constructed in 1907 by the Gurdon & Fort Smith Railroad. The portion of the line from MP 441 to MP 447 was constructed in 1893 by the Southwestern Arkansas & Indian Territory RR. That same company constructed the portion of the line from MP 429.45 to MP 441 in 1885 and converted it to standard gauge in 1891. Photographs of the bridges will be hand-delivered Mr. James E. Smith, Jr., Smith Akins, P.A. on or about October 11, 2011. In response to your request for 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale U.S.F.S. topographic maps, Mr. Smith will also hand deliver them to you.

George McCluskey  
Section 106 Review Coordinator  
October 10, 2011  
Page 2

If you require additional information, please contact me at 202-363-2011. Thank you in advance for your expeditious handling of this matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.H. Streeter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for  
Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Enclosures  
Cc: James W. Smith

## Richard Streeter

---

**From:** Hooks, Jason <HOOKS@adeq.state.ar.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 1:53 PM  
**To:** 'rhstreeter@gmail.com'  
**Subject:** Environmental Reviews

Mr. Streeter,

- I received two letters from you requesting environmental review. I provide the following comments on behalf of the ADEQ Water Division. The projects are the abandonment of the Norman Branch Line at two locations. The first segment extends from Railroad milepost 429.25 near Gurdon to Milepost 447 near Antoine, totaling 17.55 miles in Clark and Pike Counties, Arkansas. The second segment extends from Railroad Milepost 447 near Antoine to Milepost 479.2 near Birds Mill, totaling 32.2 miles in Clark, Pike, and Montgomery Counties, Arkansas.

The abandonment of these segments of rail and the discontinuation of rail service will not likely cause violations of State Water Standards. Should any stream crossing structures be demolished or repaired, then the activity will require further review for impacts to Waters of the State. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I will forward your letters to the Hazardous Waste Division for their review.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

### Jason Hooks

Inspector, Water Division  
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
Little Rock (AR) 72203  
Phone: (501) 682-6773  
Fax: (501) 682-6774



ARKANSAS  
Department of Environmental Quality

October 13, 2011

Richard H. Streeter  
Attorney at Law  
5255 Partridge Lane, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

RE: Proposed Abandonment of segment of the Norman Branch Line  
from Milepost 447 near Antoine to end of Line at Milepost 479.2

Dear Mr. Streeter:

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the information submitted for the above referenced project. The Hazardous Waste Division offers the following:

There are no known hazardous waste sites or sites where there have been known hazardous materials spills on the right-of-way.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and if you have any questions, please contact me at (501) 682-0947.

Sincerely,  
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

/s/ Nathaniel P. Nehus /s/

Nathaniel P. Nehus  
Ecologist  
Environmental Preservation & Technical Services Division

**Exhibit No. 3**

**RICHARD H. STREETER**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

National Geodetic Survey  
Geodetic Services Division  
Information Services  
NOAAINGS12  
1315 E-W Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, *and* Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

To Simon Monroe:

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

State Conservationist  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Room 3416  
Federal Building  
700 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

To Whom It May Concern

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

National Park Service  
Midwest Region  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102-4226

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, *and* Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

To Kim Shafer/Doug Wilder:

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

Mr. Gary L. Young  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Vicksburg District  
4155 East Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

Dear M. Young:

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 4  
1875 Century Blvd.  
NE Suite 400  
Atlanta, GA 30345

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

To Whom It May Concern

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

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Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

George McCluskey  
Section 106 Review Coordinator  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, *and* Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

Dear Mr. McCluskey,

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Yours truly,

Richard H. Streeter  
Counsel for Caddo Valley Railroad Company

RHS:rs  
Attachments

**RICHARD H. STREETER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW  
5255 Partridge Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, *and* Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

To Whom It May Concern

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202)-245-0295 and refer to the above Docket Nos. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact CVRR's representative directly. Our representative in this matter is Richard H. Streeter who may be contacted by telephone at (202) 363-2011 or by mail at the Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

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rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

West Central Arkansas Planning & Development District  
835 Central Avenue, Suite 201/P.O. Box 21100  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

e-mail: [mdearmon@wcapdd.org](mailto:mdearmon@wcapdd.org)

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

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Washington, D.C. 20016  
tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

Attn: Jason Hooks

On October 27, 2011, in my capacity as counsel for the Caddo Valley Railroad Company ("CVRR"), I expect to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Notice of Exempt Abandonment (STB Docket No. AB 1076X) seeking authority to abandon a portion of a line of railroad in Arkansas that extends from MP 447, near Antoine, to the end of the line at MP 479.2, near Birds Mill, and a Petition for Exemption (STB Docket No. AB 1076 (Sub-No. 1X)) seeking authority to abandon a portion of the same line that extends from MP 429.45, near Gurdon, to MP 447, near Antoine. Attached is a Combined Environmental and Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental and/or historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

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tele: 202-363-2011 fax: 202-363-4899  
rhstreeter@gmail.com

October 7, 2011

Arkansas State Clearing House  
400 East Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72202-2418

Re: Caddo Valley Railroad Company, Notice of Exempt Abandonment, STB Docket AB No. 1076X, **and** Petition for Exemption, STB Docket AB No. 1076 (Sub-No. 1X).

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